Government for increasing the present quota of seats in trains on different routes passing through Guwahati;

(b) whether Government are aware of the persistent demand from the public for allocation of more seats for Meghalaya;

(c) whether Government propose to increase the quota of railway seats for that State through the Shillong out-agency; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) An additional reservation quota of 3 (three) second class berths is being allotted at Shillong out agency by 58 Kanchanjunga Express from 1.9.1988. It is, however, not possible to increase the existing quotas in other trains, due to limited availability of accommodation and fuller utilisation thereof at various quota holding stations.

Free medical facilities to railway pensioners

1857. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Fourth Central Pay Commission has recommended free medical facilities to pensioners of Central Government, as they were having during their service time;

(b) whether it is a fact that despite the said recommendation the Railway pensioners are still deprived of the said facilities; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir. The Fourth Central Pay Commission has not recommended free medical facilities to pensioners of Central Government.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

1858. *[Transferred to the 16th August, 1988]*

Sambalpur-Talcher rail-line project

1859. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has been made so far in the construction of Sambalpur-Talcher Rail-line Project under South Eastern Railway; and

(b) what is the estimated cost of the said Project and the total amount spent so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) 11%.

(b) Estimated cost of construction is Rs. 100 crores. Expenditure upto June 1988 is Rs. 10.6 crore.

Decline in the handling of foreign trade by Calcutta Port

1860. DR. R. K. PODDAR:
SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Calcutta Port used to handle more than 50 percent share of the country's foreign trade in 1964-65 which dropped to only 8 percent in 1984-85; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No, Sir. The percentage share of Calcutta Port in the total foreign trade handled by major ports during 1964-

65 was 19.2 per cent. The share during 1984-85 was 9.7 per cent.

(b) There was no decline in the traffic handled at Calcutta Port in absolute terms in 1984-85 as compared to 1964-65. In fact the traffic had increased. The reasons for decline in the share in the country's foreign trade was mainly due to the fact that certain new major ports were developed after 1964-65 and new cargo handling facilities were created at other ports. Calcutta Port being riverrine port has draft limitations and as such the facilities cannot be developed beyond a certain extent.

Inclusion of polio vaccine in Universal Immunisation Programme

1861. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Polio Vaccine is a part of Universal Immunisation Programme and if so, the number of doses to be given up to 1990 and the costs and benefits involved;

(b) whether any controlled field clinical trials have been made in this country to evaluate the effectiveness of the vaccine and if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether any significant improvements have been made by our R&D Units since this vaccine was first introduced in the country and if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) whether the above vaccine manufactured this country compares well with the best available anywhere else in the world and if so, basis for such evaluation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes Sir. It is estimated that 740 lakhs doses in 1988-89 and 963 lakhs doses in 1989-90 will be required. This is estimated to cost Rs 481 lakhs in 1988-89 and Rs. 626 lakhs in 1989-90.

(b) Yes, Sir. Two field trials have been carried out, one in 1986 and other in 1988. Field trial carried in 1986 showed the Sero conversion rate 90 per cent, 98 per cent and 81 per cent for polio virus type 1, 2 and 3 respectively. In 1988 field trial showed Sero-conversion rate 95 per cent, 95 per cent and 80 per cent for polio virus type 1, 2 and 3 respectively.

(c) and (d) Total requirement of Polio vaccine is at present imported.

Losses in D.T.C.

1862. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total loss incurred by the Delhi Transpor Corporation during 1977 to 1987 year-wise; and

(b) what are the reasons therefor and in what manner Government propose to meet these losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) The details of year-wise total working losses are as follows:—

Year	Total working loss (Rs. in crores)
1977-78	5.81
1978-79	7.81
1979-80	4.43
1980-81	12.70
1981-82	19.38
1982-83	31.88
1983-84	45.95
1984-85	66 88
1985-86	77.73
1986-87	38.63
	311.15